

GLOSSARY

aeolian - wind-borne.

anadromous - fish that ascend rivers upward from the sea for breeding, such as salmon, shad, or sturgeon.

argillite - a metamorphosed mudstone cemented by silica and lacking slaty cleavage.

assemblage - collection of persons or things; in this context, the collection of artifacts from a particular site, from a stratigraphic level or cultural component within the site, or of a particular artifact class, such as lithics or ceramics.

biface - a stone tool bearing flake scars on both faces.

bipolar - lithic manufacturing technique of resting core on anvil and striking the core with a percussor; bipolar flakes typically exhibit sheared cones of force, diffuse bulbs of percussion, closely spaced ripple marks, and crushed and splintered platforms; bipolar cores are typically tabular in shape, exhibit heavy crushing and battering, and flake scars tend to be oriented along the long axis of the core.

catchment area - the area exploited for resources by the local population.

chalcedony - a cryptocrystalline variety of quartz, predominantly silica and having the near luster of paraffin wax; may be transparent or translucent and of various colors.

chert - a fine-grained, siliceous, sedimentary rock, generally light-colored; an impure variety of chalcedony resembling flint.

chronology - pertains to the basic temporal units of prehistory and the time span reflected in archaeological site stratigraphy.

cobble tool - cobbles used for various tasks with little or no prior modification; battered, crushed, pitted, and/or smoothed surfaces identify these cobbles as tools.

core - nucleus; a mass of lithic material often shaped by the worker to allow the removal of a definite type of flake or blade.

cortex - natural rind or weathered outer layer on flint-like materials; observations of cortex provide information on tool manufacturing techniques and on methods of raw material procurement: presence of cortex indicates early- to middle-stage tool manufacturing activity.

cracked rock - includes all fragments of lithic debris that cannot be attributed to stone tool production; represents cobbles and/or chunks of local bedrock that may have been used in heating or cooking activities (fire-cracked rock).

cultigen - a cultivated plant for which a wild ancestor is known, for example, corn.

debitage - residual lithic material resulting from tool manufacture; represents intentional and unintentional breakage of artifacts either through manufacture or function;debitage flakes may represent the various stages of progress of the raw material from the original form to the finished tool.

edge damage - known by a variety of terms including "microflaking" and "utilization damage," this refers to the scars created along the edge of a utilized tool; visible as tiny flakes removed from the utilized surface.

expedient tool - a tool produced casually or opportunistically from readily available material, including cobbles, pebbles, or large waste flakes from formal tool manufacture; expedient tools are characterized by little, if any, modification prior to use.

faunal remains - includes both bone and shell refuse, as well as tools and ornaments.

floral remains - include both charred and uncharred plant materials such as seeds, nuts, shells, and wood.

flotation - process of sifting soil samples through a fine screen while running a steady stream of water over the sample; residual materials such as tiny artifacts, seeds, and bones are separated out into light and heavy fractions for analysis.

geomorphology - the study of landforms; concentrates on both the description of landforms, as well as the chemical and physical processes that create the features present at the surface of the earth.

groundstone tools - formal stone tools and ornaments that were manufactured by pecking, grinding, and sometimes flaking.

intrasite patterning - horizontal and vertical site structure; focuses on the delineation of task- specific activity areas and site formation processes.

ironstone - a hard sedimentary rock high in iron content such as siderite.

jasper - an opaque cryptocrystalline quartz of a variety of colors, usually yellowish brown to reddish brown.

lithic - of, related to, or made of stone.

palynology - a specialized form of botanical analysis which examines residual pollen and spores.

pedology - a branch of geology that focuses on the study of soils and soils development.

plowzone - that portion of the stratigraphy in which plowing has taken place; generally abbreviated as the 'Ap-horizon'.

quartz - crystalline, non-metallic, mineral consisting of silicon dioxide; typically occurs in hexagonal crystals or crystalline masses.

quartzite - a compact granular rock composed of quartz and derived from sandstone by heat and pressure.

residue analysis - chemical analysis of a variety of use-related, protein-based residues present on lithic and ceramic artifacts; includes animal remains such as blood and fish oil or plant products such as seeds, grains, and sap.

rhyolite - light colored, extrusive, igneous rock with abundant quartz and a very fine-grained texture.

settlement pattern - pertains to a group's adaptation to the environment within a regional perspective.

stratigraphy - the origin, composition, and succession of natural soil or rock or cultural layers.

stratum - (i) a mass of sedimentary deposits laying in a vertical sequence; (ii) a layer in which archaeological material (as artifacts or dwelling remains) is found within a site.

steatite - soapstone; fine-grained, relatively soft, compact rock whose principal constituent is talc.

subsistence - a source or means of obtaining those materials essential to the maintenance of life such as food and shelter; in archaeology, subsistence deals primarily with dietary composition and food procurement strategies.

temper - in pottery manufacture, temper is the material added to the clay that modifies its properties when wet or dry, as well as during and after firing; can include fiber, shell, grit, sand, or fragments of fired clay.

uniface - a stone tool flaked on one surface only.

waste flake - discarded lithic flakes not suitable for use; usually resulting from platform preparation, trimming, quarrying or mining waste, and removal of cortex.